(c) whether in order to achieve this target the support of State Governments and private enterprises will be obtained; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (d) The Department of Tourism has prepared a draft Strategy Paper for the development of tourism which is to be examined by the Government. The Strategy Paper has projected an investment of Rs. 31350 crores jointly by the Central Government, State Governments and the private sector with a view to increase foreign exchange earnings and direct employment in the tourism sector.

Revamping of Insurance Sector

2387. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1624 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th July, 1996 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to revamp the insurance sector in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The interim Insurance Regulatory Authority which was set up by the Government as a first step towards reforms in the insurance sector, has been entrusted, subject to the overall directions and guidelines of the Government, with the task of dealing with all matters relating to promotion and orderly growth of the insurance market and propose comprehensive legislation for this purpose.

Partial Privatisation of Life Insurance Sector

2388. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are moving towards partial privatisation of life insurance sector in India;

(b) if so, details of the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Under the existing law, insurance business, both life and general, is the exclusive privilege of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC); General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC); and its four subsidiaries. The Common Minimum Programme (CMP) of the Government envisages restructuring the insurance industry in the light of the experience gained in the working of the banking sector. The interim Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) set up by the Government, has been entrusted with the task of proposing comprehensive legislation relating to promotion and orderly growth of insurance market subject to the overall directions and guidelines of the Government.

Profitability of Indian Airlines

2389. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's national carrier, Indian Airlines which incurred loss of Rs. 685 crores is expected to make an operating profit;

(b) if so, whether granting of fourteen A-320 aircraft and merger of Vayudoot with the Indian Airlines resulted in an accumulated loss of Rs. 685 crores;

(c) if so, the extent the profits earned during the financial year;

(d) whether efforts will be made by Air India to improve further its profits in the next two years; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The grounding of A-320 aircraft and merger of Vayudoot has accounted for a loss of Rs. 197 crores and Rs. 50 crores respectively;

(c) Indian Airlines is expected to incur a Net Loss of Rs. 134.25 crores and operating profit of Rs. 114.35 crores during the financial year 1995-96.

(d) and (e) Steps have been taken by Air India to improve its product, image and on time

performance to attract more passengers and to increase revenue.

अनिवासी भारतीयों की भारत में पूंजी निवेश करने में अरूचि

2390. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
श्री नागमणि:

क्या वित्त मंत्री 16 जुलाई, 1996 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 344 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार के कार्यकरण को ध्यान में रखते हुए अनिवासी भारतीयों में भारत में पूंजी निवेश करने में कोई उत्साह नहीं है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप सरकार द्वारा विगत तीन वर्षों में निर्धारित किए गए लक्ष्य प्राप्त नहीं किए जा सके हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इन कमियों को दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री पी॰ चिदम्बरम): (क) जी नहीं। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा उपलब्ध कराई गई सूचना के अनुसार वर्ष 1993, 1994 और 1995 के दौरान विभिन्न निवेश योजनाओं के तहत अनिवासी भारतीयों द्वारा किए गए निवेशों के कारण अन्तर्प्रवाह, जैसे कि नीचे दिए गए हैं, लगातार बढ़ रहे हैं।

संयुक्त राष्ट्र मिलियन डालर

1993	1994	1995
180	370	570

(ख) और (ग) उपर्युक्त (क) को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Amendment to Companies Act

2391. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to amend the Companies Act;

(b) if so, what are the new provisions proposed to be incorporated in the existing Act; and

(c) the steps being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government proposes to introduce a Companies (Amendment) Bill shortly to make a few changes in the Companies Act, 1956. These changes will include the following:--

(i) Debarring companies which default on payment of deposits raised by them in the past or interest thereon, from raising further deposits and making intercorporate loans/investments.

(ii) Allowing the companies to issue non-voting shares in addition to equity shares with voting rights and preference shares.

(iii) Granting of voting rights to mutual funds, venture capital funds and such other funds as approved by Securities Exchange Board of India in respect of shares held by these funds in companies.

(iv) Permitting companies to issue redeemable preference shares upto a maximum period of 20 years.

(v) Allowing companies to file documents on computer format with the Registrars of Companies.

(vi) Allowing companies to alter their Memorandum of Association in respect of their objects without confirmation of the Company Law Board; and

(vii) Removing the ceiling of Rs. 1,000/- in respect of the claim of arrears of wages or salary of any employee in case of winding up of a company.

Expenditure incurred by Ministers/ Personal staff of Ministers

2392. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item regarding cut in expenditure in Government as reported in major newspapers on 18th June; 1996;